

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Sentenced to Prison Following Guilty Verdict for Aggravated Assault and Criminal Trespass
State vs. Joshua Harrison Rymer

January 16, 2025 – District Attorney Susan K. Treadaway announces that on Wednesday, January 15, a Cherokee County jury found Joshua Harrison Rymer, 39, of Ball Ground, guilty of aggravated assault and criminal trespass.

Cherokee Sheriff's Office first became aware of the incident on February 12, 2024, after responding to a 911 call reporting an intruder inside a Ball Ground residence. When deputies arrived, they located Rymer inside the house and arrested him. Rymer was in possession of an open switchblade in the right pocket of his pants.

During the trial, which took place January 14-15, the State presented 64 exhibits and called six individuals to testify, including law enforcement officers and witnesses.

One witness, who lived in the home that Rymer entered, testified that she tried to close her outside door to prevent Rymer from getting inside, but he forced his way in. She said that Rymer was holding an open knife that looked like a dagger. The resident attempted to get away from Rymer by going upstairs and locking herself in a bedroom with her children. She then called her husband, who called 911. Deputies later found Rymer barricaded in another room in the upstairs of the home.

Immediately following the guilty verdict, Superior Court Judge Tony Baker sentenced Rymer, who is a recidivist offender, to 20 years with the first three years to serve in prison. The sentence forbids Rymer from having any contact with the victims or being in the vicinity of their home. Special conditions of probation include obtaining an evaluation and treatment for mental health and substance abuse, avoiding alcohol and drug use, and not possessing firearms.

The case was investigated by the Cherokee Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Mackey, Office of the District Attorney, Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit.

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The Office of the District Attorney for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit is committed to seeking justice, acting with integrity, and collaborating with partner agencies in the criminal justice system in order to protect the citizens of Cherokee County and the State of Georgia.

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